Combined (Main)

TR/COM/E/I/14

ENGLISH

Paper : I

Full Marks – 100

Time – 2 hours and 30 minutes

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

1. Write a paragraph in about 150 words on any *one* of the following topics : 15

   (a) The profession you intend to enter and the reasons for your choice.

   (b) A reality show or a serial in TV that you enjoy very much.

   (c) Transport system in Tripura.

2. Prepare a newspaper report in about 150 words developing the points given below : 20

   (a) Inauguration of a library arranged by a local club—chief guest spoke on the necessity of

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such libraries, how it can motivate the children better than cyber cafe or video parlour—a cultural function followed—the club secretary thanked all present there.

Or

(b) A man fell unconscious due to terrible heat-wave, at a market place—a traffic police extended his helping hand—called for an ambulance—sent the man to hospital—people saw the humanitarian gesture of the police.

3. Select *one* of the following (word limit 150 words) : 15

(a) Write a letter to the Chairman of the Agartala Municipal Corporation, pointing out that the road near your house was washed away in the previous monsoon and has not yet been repaired. Request him to ensure that repairing work is started.

(b) Write a letter to the Editor of a local daily, expressing your views on the brutality shown to the new-comers by senior students in an educational institution—in the name of ragging.

(c) Write a letter to the postmaster complaining about the delay in the delivery of a very urgent registered letter addressed to you, due to the negligence of the postman.

4. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below :

(a) Only this much I knew—that under ideal conditions, true education could be imparted only by the parents, that there should be the minimum of outside help, that Tolstoy Farm was a family, in which I occupied the place of the father, and that I should so far as possible shoulder the responsibility for the training of the young. I decided to live amongst them all the twenty-four hours of the day as their father.

I regarded character building as the proper foundation for their education and, if the foundation was firmly laid, I was sure that the children could learn all the other things themselves or with the assistance of friends.

Nor did I underrate the building up of the body. This they got in the course of their daily routine. For, there were no servants on the Farm, and all the work, from cooking down to scavenging, was done by the

inmates. There were many fruit trees to be looked after, and enough gardening to be done as well. ..... It was obligatory on all, young and old, who were not engaged in the kitchen, to give some time to gardening. The children had the lion's share of this work, which included digging pits, felling timber and lifting loads. This gave them ample exercise.... and at any rate they built up fine physiques. There was scarcely any illness on the Farm, though it must be said that good air and water and regular hours of food were not a little responsible for this.

(i) What made the speaker shoulder the responsibility for training the young people ? 4

(ii) What, according to the author is the foundation of education ? Why does he think so ? 2+2=4

(iii) Describe the daily routine of the students of the Tolstoy Farm—that helped them in "the building up of the body". 5

(iv) What are the other factors that contributed to the "fine physiques" of the students of the Farm ? 2

Or

(b) All of us have our moments. But not everyone of us is ready to give them a serious thought and convert these moments into Eureka moments, as Archimedes did when he jumped out of his bath-tub to propound the Theory of Displacement. Nor does everyone who gets knocked on the head by a falling apple, ends up understanding the Law of Gravity like Newton. Almost all major inspirations have been found in smaller things. What is important—to rise above the immediate and personal moment and be able to look at it in a larger context—which helps us to become better human beings. We find a stimulant in ordinary everyday moments, which may have a deep emotional impact on us. A child's innocent smile and trusting eyes can be a huge motivator for parents to live upto the faith a child reposes in them. Happiness experienced by a small generous act of the moment can motivate one towards consistent philanthropic acts for life. When a Boston lady started leaving blankets anonymously on the benches for the homeless—it triggered a movement of random acts of kindness and

generosity for her. Mahatma Gandhi's campaign against injustice and the momentous role he played in the history of India was triggered by a small incident, when he was thrown off a train in South Africa. Humiliated and smarting from the injustice and racial slur Gandhiji decided to fight injustice, later hailing this incident as his "moment of truth".

The ability to turn negativity into a positive learning, to be able to look at little positives and let them spur you onto a greater goodness to find deeper, scientific or spiritual meaning in everyday phenomena—this is the stuff greatness is made of.

(i) Most big things begin small—says the author. Mention the two small happenings behind the two great theories of Archimedes and Newton. 5

(ii) How did the Boston lady's activities of generosity and kindness start? 4

(iii) What is the incident that Gandhiji hailed as his "moment of truth"? 3

(iv) What is the stuff that greatness is made of? 3

5. (a) Make a précis of the following passage and add a suitable title to it. 12+3=15

In 1962, Dr. Sarabhai and Dr. Bhabha were looking for a site to establish the space research station in the equatorial region. Thumba in Kerala was found most suitable as it was near the equatorial region and was ideally suited for space research. The locality, however was inhabited by thousands of fishermen living in the villages there. It also had a beautiful church called St. Mary Magdalene church and the Bishop's house. As such the acquisition of the land did not move any further.

Dr. Sarabhai met the Bishop, His Excellency Rev. Dr. Peter Bernard Pereira, on a Saturday and requested transfer of the property. The Bishop smiled and asked him to meet him the next day. In the Sunday morning service, the Bishop told the congregation, 'My children, I have a famous scientist with me who wants our church and the place where I live for the work of space science and research. Science seeks truth that enriches human life. The spiritual preachers seek the

help of the Almighty to bring peace to human minds. In short, what Vikram is doing and what I am doing are the same— both science and spirituality seek the Almighty's blessings for human prosperity in mind and body. Children, can we give them God's abode for a scientific mission'? There was silence for a while followed by a hearty *'Amen' from the congregation which made the whole church reverberate.

**'Amen' means 'Let it be so'.*

Or

(b) Write a summary of the following passage : 15

Kiran loved to see people eat well, to sit and serve them with their food. Nilkanta was a good eater, it was not hard to get him to take more and more of whatever he liked. So Kiran would often call him to serve him herself—it gave her special pleasure to watch him enjoying his food. But now that Satish was here, Kiran often did not have time to sit with Nilkanta as he ate. Formerly, his appetite had not been affected by her absence.

But now if she didn't call him he was sick at heart and felt a bitter taste in his mouth; he would rise without finishing, telling the maid in a husky voice that he wasn't hungry. He hoped that Kiran would send for him if she heard about this, entreat him to take some food. But no one told her, and she didn't send for him. He would then turn out the lamp in his room, throw himself down on the dark bed, sobbing and choking and pressing his face into the pillow. But what use was this? Who took any notice? Who came to give him comfort? Eventually sleep— kindest of nurses— came with her gentle touch to bring relief to this sad, motherless boy.

6. (a) Correct any *four* of the following sentences : $4 \times 1 = 4$

(i) He has obtained full mark in mathematics.

(ii) He is comparatively better to-day.

(iii) Where you are coming from?

(iv) He is out of his danger now.

(v) I congratulated him for his success.

(vi) He is superior than me in all respects.

(b) Use any *two* of the following phrases in your own sentences : 2×2=4

(i) by and large

(ii) in person

(iii) in keeping with

(iv) hush money

(v) rat race.

(c) Fill in the blanks with the right alternatives given in the brackets (any *four*) : 4×1=4

(i) Kangaroos are —— to Australia.
(indigenous / indigence)

(ii) Where can I —— for the Arabic course ?
(register / registrar)

(iii) The girl was always very — of her brother's success. (jealous / zealous)

(iv) The men were ready to dig out the place where the town —— was dumped.

(refusal / refuse)

(v) Several men were called in to bear —— to what the police officer had said.

(testimonial / testimony)

(vi) I feel highly —— by the kind things you say about me. (honoured / honourable)

(d) Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions. (any *four*) : 4×1=4

(i) I have no appetite —— food.

(ii) I am surprised —— his conduct.

(iii) Fortune smiled —— him at last.

(iv) Poverty is often an obstacle —— higher studies.

(v) India is rich —— minerals.

(vi) Next morning the ground was covered —— snow.

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(e) Give the correct synonyms for any *two* of the following words from the words written within brackets : 2×1=2

(i) murder

(ii) envious

(iii) investigation

(iv) intentional

(v) graceful

(search, charming, jealous, deliberate, kill)

(f) Give the antonyms of any *two* of the following words from the words written within brackets : 2×1=2

(i) gradual

(ii) irritate

(iii) reveal

(iv) judicious

(v) kind

(harsh, conceal, sudden, soothe, foolish)